

# Wisconsin Women's Network

Bi-Weekly E-Bulletin | March 24, 2010



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WOMEN'S  
network

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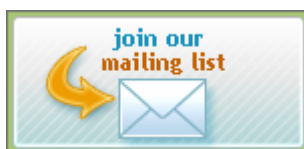
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Please consider giving to the Wisconsin Women's Network through

Community Shares of Wisconsin's Workplace Giving Campaign. For more information, visit [Community Shares](#) or contact the [WWN office](#).

Please visit our website:

[www.wiwomensnetwork.org](http://www.wiwomensnetwork.org)

## → From Our Members

### Opinion: Support Family Planning

Lisa Subeck, executive director of WWN member **NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin**, speaks out against the 40 Days for Life campaign which engages in harassment outside of women's health clinics.

### TAPIT/new works celebrates decades of dance and drama

WWN member **TAPIT/new works Theater** celebrates 25 years as a company in March with a new production called "Help Wanted: The Search for True Love, Security or at Least a Decent Part-Time Job." In the piece, a group of employees find out their jobs are in jeopardy, making them potential victims for a couple of con artists.

## → Events

### Wisconsin Women's Health Policy Summit

When: May 12, 2010 -- during National Women's Health Week  
Where: The Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall, Madison, WI  
Why: To collectively raise the status of women's health in Wisconsin

Every woman at every age and stage of her life has much at stake in the policy decisions being made in our state regarding access to quality health care. Together we have the opportunity to develop a comprehensive policy agenda for raising the status of women's health in Wisconsin. Whether you're an individual, or part of an organization invested in women's health, join in to take the next step!

The summit theme focuses on the Life Course Model and will provide an opportunity for providers, advocates, policy leaders, health care leaders and community members to come together to learn about the array of policies affecting women's health in Wisconsin, as well as to help develop a collective women's health policy agenda for our state.

Attendees can look forward to impressive keynote speakers, panel discussions surrounding diverse topics such as disparities and real

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women's voices, and an opportunity to network with other women's health supporters from across the state.

[Register online](#)

**Free Caregiver Training offered at Attic Angel Retirement Community**

8301 West Old Sauk Road  
Saturdays, April 10, 17, 24 and May 1  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Bryant Room

Many people become caregivers overnight without having the basic skills to safely care for their spouses, parents or other older adults who return home from a few weeks or months in a nursing home rehabilitation facility. The home may not be set up with adaptive equipment like safety bars and rails to make the home safe. Caregivers risk injury to themselves and their care recipient if they lift or position improperly. They may not know how to communicate effectively with the healthcare team.

The 4-week session provides comprehensive hands-on training that teaches caregivers practical skills that make them better caregivers. The hands-on training includes falls prevention, lifting and positioning, skin care, medication safety, toileting and dressing, bathing and shower safety, dealing with incontinence and much more.

For details and to register, visit [www.ccmadison.org](http://www.ccmadison.org) or contact Diane Walder, 442-7248; [diane.walder@att.net](mailto:diane.walder@att.net).

 **News and Views****WI Elder Economic Security Initiative**

The 2009 Elder Economic Security Standard Index for Wisconsin, developed at the University of Massachusetts, looks at the basic cost of living for individuals and couples. The county-by-county study concludes that a large percentage of older people cannot afford to live in Wisconsin.

**Women's Health and Reproductive Rights****What the Health Care Bill Means for Women**

The new health care bill represents one of the biggest challenges to U.S. social policy in decades. And for several reasons it may have an especially large impact on women in the U.S. That's because women make the majority of family health care decisions, and on average they live longer than men and require more medical care over a longer period of time. In addition, women have special health care needs--primarily around pregnancy, childbirth and childcare.

**Insurers report on use of abortion riders**

In North Dakota, where insurers can cover abortions if customers

pay a separate premium, the state's largest provider says it sells no abortion policies because no one has asked to buy one.

#### Action: Preventing STDs: Expedited Partner Therapy Bill

Wisconsin is facing a public health crisis with STD rates at an all time high. One crucial tool to help stop the spread of STDs is Senate Bill 460, the Expedited Partner Therapy bill. This bill allows physicians to prescribe and pharmacists to dispense a second dose of antibiotics for the partner of a patient being treated for STDs. Treating the partner as well will greatly reduce the likelihood of re-infection of the STD.

#### Workplace Equality

##### Bias Called Persistent Hurdle for Women in Sciences

A report on the underrepresentation of women in science and math by the American Association of University Women, found that although women have made gains, stereotypes and cultural biases still impede their success. The report, "Why So Few?," supported by the National Science Foundation, examined decades of research to cull recommendations for drawing more women into science, technology, engineering and mathematics, the so-called STEM fields.

#### Church doesn't let women speak or vote as school principal is fired

Women were not allowed to speak or vote as men from a Baraboo church voted to fire the principal of the church's elementary and middle school. In a letter to school parents announcing his suspension, church pastors said the principal had promoted materials that questioned the church's teachings, questioning Lutheran doctrine that says women shall not have authority over men. Females do not have voting privileges, but are generally allowed to speak at meetings; Sunday's meeting was the first time in recent history that the church's president exercised his authority to prevent females from speaking.

#### Women in the Military

##### Sex Assault Reports Rise in Military

The Department of Defense released an annual report on March 16 showing an 11 percent increase in reports of sexual assault in the military over the past year, including a 16 percent increase in reported assaults occurring in combat areas, principally Iraq and Afghanistan.

#### Veterans Voice: Tracing women's steps in U.S. military history

In honor of Women's History Month, a brief chronology of women's military service in the United States. To download WWN's resource for women veterans, Women in Boots Marching Home, click here.



## Job and Volunteer Opportunities

#### Volunteer Opportunities

### Wisconsin Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice seeks Board/Committee members!

Pro-Choice? Frustrated? Looking for a way to Make a Difference? The Wisconsin Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice is the place for you! Wisconsin RCRC is looking for dedicated, committed, pro-choice people of faith to join our board of directors and/or join one of our working groups. If you are passionate for social justice and women's rights; if you are frustrated at the current state of reproductive justice in Wisconsin; if your faith compels you to get involved in a meaningful way to effect change; please contact Rabbi Bonnie Margulis at [bmargulis@tds.net](mailto:bmargulis@tds.net) or Cathy Thompson at [wi\\_rcrc@yahoo.com](mailto:wi_rcrc@yahoo.com) and find out how you can become a board member and/or join one of our working groups, and become a faithful activist for reproductive justice for Wisconsin!

### Board of Directors, Vice Chair/Special Events

The Wisconsin Women's Network currently has an opening for Vice Chair/Special Events on its Board of Directors. This position expires in December 2011, and may be renewed for a new two-year term. We particularly encourage applications from representatives of member organizations in WWN, but the position is also open to individual members of WWN. The Vice Chair/Special Events is responsible for the events sponsored by the Wisconsin Women's Network. This is an opportunity to see if membership on the 10-member Board of the Wisconsin Women's Network, working on issues important to women and families, is a good fit for you. Please contact Johanna Hatch, administrator, for further information.

**Independent Living, Inc.** is looking for volunteers to help keep seniors and people with disabilities independent and in the home of their choice. We offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities. Opportunities include:

**Chore Corps:** Help an older or disabled adult with running errands, grocery shopping, meal preparation or light housekeeping. Flexible schedule 1-2 hours per week.

**Evening Meals on Wheels:** Deliver hot, nutritious meals to the home of frail or homebound older adults or people with disabilities. Routes start between 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and generally take about an hour to complete. Delivering meals make a great group or family activity.

**Friendly Visiting:** Help prevent social isolation by offering weekly companionship to an older adult in their home or on an outing. Flexible schedule 1-2 hours per week.

**Kitchen Volunteers:** Assist our professional chef in preparing and packaging meals for our Evening Meals on Wheels clients.

**Reception Volunteer:** Assist with answering the telephone, greeting visitors and general office projects. 3-4 hours per week. Shifts are available at the Independent Living Headquarters, 815

Forward Drive, or The Gardens, 602 N. Segoe Road, both in Madison.

**Telephone Reassurance:** Make daily calls to provide a safety check, medication reminder or companionship for an older adult in our community. For more information, contact [Volunteer Services Program Manager](#) at 608-274-7900

**For Equality,**

Johanna Hatch, Administrator  
[Wisconsin Women's Network](#)

#### MISSION

The Wisconsin Women's Network is a coalition of organizations and individuals advancing the status of women in Wisconsin through communications, education, and advocacy.

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